Dewan's reply.—The present rules do not exclude graduates. They only prescribe a property qualification also, and this is itself pitched low. A graduate without property can still vote. The graduates are themselves responsible for the bitter feeling displayed against them to-day. On previous occasions they made a blunder by attempting to monopolize all the talking. We cannot have men of learning here merely for learning's sake, as this Assembly is not a Literary Union.

Subject No. 33. Triennial Toddy Farms.

Summary of discussion.—At present toddy farms are sold for only one year. The renter often incurs serious loss and is ruined. If the term be extended to three years at a time, the renter will be enabled to recoup the losses of one year by the profits of another year.

Dewan's reply.—The term cannot be extended. Petty contracts of this kind are for one year only in most places.

Subject No. 34. Reduction of Arrack shops and enhancement of the price of Arrack

Summary of discussion.—Drunkenness is spreading rapidly. The number of shops has increased in Shimoga. It should be reduced and the price of liquor raised.

Per contra, Mr. Ramaswamaiengar (Landholder and R. M. from Anekal Taluk) denied that this would do any good. Speaking of Anekal, where he came from, he said there was a large number of weavers there who now contributed to the Excise Revenue of Mysore, but who, if shops in Mysore limits were abolished, would contribute to the Excise Revenue of the Madras Presidency, only to the loss of Mysore and without gain to the temperance cause.

Note.—The Deputy Commissioner of Shimoga stated that the number of shops in Shimoga town was now less than it was before.

Dewan's reply.—We shall not be sorry to lose Revenue, if thereby temperance is promoted. As it is, we have only half as many shops now as we had twenty years ago. With the present rates of enhanced price and with fewer shops we find there have been numerous prosecutions for illicit distillation in the Malnad. The subject has been fully dealt with in the opening address.

Subject No. 35. Fees for searching Documents in Government Records.

Summary of discussion.—The fee for searching documents prescribed under recent orders (No. 13280-314—1388, dated 8th February 1894) is excessive. A graduated scale should be fixed, say of 2 annas for the first year, 4 annas for two years, and so on, up to a limit of one rupee, which should be the maximum recoverable. Under the present rule, if the document is twenty years old, the fee will be as much as Rs. 20.

Dewan's reply.—The rules will be reconsidered.